

**FMATS
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
December 6, 2006**

I. Call to Order

Ethan Birkholz called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. at the DOT&PF Office Main Conference Room.

II. Introduction of Members and Attendees

The following members were present:

The following staff and public were present:

Dave Jacoby
Todd Boyce (for Bernardo Hernandez)
Glenn Miller
Joan Hardesty
Ted Johnson
Jim Remitz
Ryan Colgan
Mark Wohlford
Ethan Birkholz
Bruce Carr

Judy Chapman
Bob Prishtash
Peter Serrano (via teleconference)
Barbara Bauer (via teleconference)

III. Public Comment Period

No public comment.

IV. Approval of December 6, 2006 Agenda

The agenda was presented at the meeting.

MOTION to approve the November 1, 2006 agenda, as amended to add a Yankovich – Miller Hill update, a Preventative Maintenance update, and a UPWP update (Jacoby/Carr). No objections. Approved.

V. Approval of October 4, 2006 Meeting Minutes

The minutes were presented at the meeting.

MOTION to approve the October 4, 2006 minutes as written (Jacoby/Wohlford). No objections. Approved.

VI. Context Sensitive Design Presentation

Barbara Bauer, FHWA Context Sensitive Solutions Coordinator, gave a presentation on Context Sensitive Solutions (see presentation). She emphasized that engineers do have

flexibility in how they design, and that the AASHTO Green Book is used as a guide rather than a mandate. She said that implementing CSS did not mean projects would be delayed, over budget, or that safety would be compromised. She emphasized that CSS was the process of decision-making as much as it was an emphasis on landscaping or specific design elements. There was a brief discussion following the presentation on how CSS elements were being implemented and how SAFETEA-LU emphasizes additional coordination, consultation, and public outreach.

VII. PM 2.5 Conformity

Glenn Miller explained ongoing efforts to measure and catalog Fairbanks' PM 2.5 issue. He described the Borough's fixed and mobile sensors, and stated that PM 2.5 was one issue that needed to be emphasized due to the new EPA regulations. Although Fairbanks has not been officially designated a PM 2.5 non-attainment area (this is expected in 2009), if it were a non-attainment area it would have already experienced nine PM 2.5 exceedences in November, 2006.

VIII. TIP Major Amendment Update

Ethan went over the TIP Draft Major Amendment #5 which was approved at the November Policy Committee meeting. Due to a cost increase in Van Horn Road design phase, Nordale Road design and utilities dollars were moved out one year to FFY10. Because we were using 381 funding, there was no ripple effect and the funding could just be swapped, with the balance left from moving Nordale Road out going into the Preventative Maintenance project.

Ethan and Judy described the planned public participation for the TIP Major Amendment. A public open house meeting will be held, display ads will be placed in the newspaper and Public Service Announcements will announce the public meeting on the radio. Additionally, the FMATS TIP will be integrated into the electronic STIP, which is searchable on a project by project basis on the web. A full copy of the TIP major amendment would be available by link to the FMATS website.

Public Comment Period

No public comment.

Other Issues

Yankovich- Miller Hill Bike Path – Dave Bloom gave a brief update on the Miller Hill-Yankovich Road project, saying that the design engineer was beginning to focus on design alternatives and would be scheduling public meetings in late January or early February. Marc Wohlford said that if UA right-of-way was going to be needed, DOT&PF Design should schedule a meeting with UA to discuss. Dave said they would set up a meeting once the routing options were analyzed and they knew how much right-of-way was likely to be needed. He mentioned that Barry Hooper is the new Design Manager assigned to the project.

Preventative Maintenance – Ethan gave a brief update on the Preventative Maintenance (PM) Project funding, and mentioned that Planning had produced PM maps and these maps were being used by DOT&PF Maintenance for the Categorical Exclusion. After that, project design can be handled by the interested entities that want to do so. Judy mentioned that 381 funding was used for local match for the Preventative Maintenance program.

UPWP Changes – Judy mentioned some upcoming changes to the UPWP. The Task 400 Air Quality PM 2.5 Study was being rewritten, and would be routed around for approval once finalized. In-kind match rates for the Borough in Task 300 were also changed slightly. She has talked with Headquarters and with FHWA about these changes.

Next Scheduled Technical Committee Meeting January 10, 2007, North Pole City Hall

Adjourn – 11:28 a.m.

Approved: 
Ethan Birkholz, Chair

1-11-07
Date